Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a trusted boot source in a computer system, the computer system including a partition and an operating system, the partition being nonviewable from the operating system, the method comprising the steps of:

allowing a plurality of sub-partitions to be defined in the partition, the plurality of sub-partitions corresponding to a plurality of boot sources; and

allowing a password to be provided for each of the plurality of sub-partitions utilizing a basic input output system (BIOS) for the computer system, the password being required for a user to utilize a corresponding sub-partition as a boot source.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

allowing a user to boot from a sub-partition of the plurality sub-partitions if the user provides the password for the sub-partition.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the partition is stored in a hardfile of the computer system.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein an identity of each of the plurality of sub-partitions and the password for each sub-partition is stored in the hardfile.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the partition is lockable from the operating system.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

an operating system;

a partition including a plurality of sub-partitions, the partition being nonviewable from the operating system, the plurality of sub-partitions corresponding to a plurality of boot sources;

a basic input output system (BIOS); and

a password for each of the plurality of sub-partitions provided utilizing the BIOS for the computer system, the password being required for a user to utilize a corresponding sub-partition as a boot source.

7. (Original) The computer system of claim 6 wherein a user is allowed to boot from a sub-partition of the plurality sub-partitions if the user provides the password for the sub-partition.

8. (Original) The computer system of claim 6 wherein the computer system further includes a hardfile and wherein the partition is stored in the hardfile.

9. (Original) The computer system of claim 8 wherein an identity of each of the plurality of sub-partitions and the password for each sub-partition is stored in the hardfile.

10. (Original) The computer system of claim 6 wherein the partition is lockable from the operating system.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the partition includes at least one additional sub-partition not requiring a password.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

utilizing an additional password for the partition.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 6 wherein the partition includes at least one additional sub-partition not requiring a password.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 6 further comprising:

an additional password for the partition.